

The females are just the counterpart of the male. These, well built tall & erect, <sup>looking</sup> almost majestically, when the former, from being compelled, not only to do all they handy work, but likewise carry great burdens, either in travelling, or building their houses, have a stooping walk, with downcast, feeble countenance & their hair & dress in the greatest possible disorder gives them an appearance as if they were misery itself.

These houses, now ~~140~~ or 150 in number, <sup>(containing about 5000 souls)</sup> had been burned by the Sioux and Jowas last winter & were not yet all rebuilt, & we saw some of these poor creatures dragging timbers, from the river, a distance of a few miles, & some of these timbers must be about 16 feet long & 8 to 9 inches thick, which makes it a considerable work.

We were told that plenty of stone were near this village, but found only a few scattered ones, & these unfit for any use, being flint stone, & the only one we had seen since we left Council Bluffs.

A very cruel practice we learned is prevalent with these Indians, & perhaps with all wild prairie Indians, that is, when their old people get so feeble that they can no longer accompany them on the hunt, at which times nothing can be left behind - they bury them alive. We had to believe it to be a fact, from the "talk" Mr. Allis made to them, he said, pointing to an old feeble man of very tall stature, who was an old head chief: "I have learned that you intend of putting your old chief down because he is now old, & sickly, & perhaps you will even think of burying him when he can not follow you well any more, but I want you to take care of him. He has been like a father to you when he was yet strong you know his kettle was always over the fire with plenty, & he has always been a friend of the whites, & they will remember him as their friend, & you best esteem him too for the services he did